The Bride of the Water God

by Mi-Kyung Yun

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Translator: miyavisoap
Translation Check: Anonymou
Editors: Phy/Phy, yomo
QC: chiresakura

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I HEARD FROM HABAEK THAT YOU ASKED TO BE TAKEN TO PICK LOTUS FLOWERS IF YOU WANT TO GO, HURRY AND GET READY
ARE YOU GOING WITH ME, MUI? WHAT ABOUT HABAEK?
WHY? ARE YOU DISAPPOINTED IT'S NOT HABAEK?
YOU KNOW THAT IS NOT WHAT I MEANT.. YOU COULD HAVE PUT IT LESS BLUNTLY.. BUT IN ANY CASE, I AM GLAD I AM ABLE TO GO WITH YOU.

하백의 신부 新婦

제10권

THANKS FOR BRINGING ME, MUI. THE LOTUS FLOWERS ARE BEAUTIFUL.

윤미경

Sent to the Lady Next Door
-Yu Xuan Ji

Easy to attain is the priceless,
Difficult to possess is a loving husband.
Onto pillows, my hidden tears fall,
Among flowers, my heart is wrenched.

I can still have my fantasies,
So why regret the average man?

I can still spy on Song Yu,
So why regret Wang Chang?

T'L Note. Song Yu and Wang Chang are two historical Chinese figures used in an old saying.

IS THAT SO?
BUT COMPARED TO THE LOTUS FLOWER, I MUCH PREFER FLOWERS THAT CAN SPEAK.

I AM SORRY BUT I WAS UNABLE TO BRING HABAEK WITH ME.
IT IS A SHAME, BUT I SUPPOSE IT COULDN'T BE HELPED
HOWEVER... NOW I HAVE LOST FACE IN WANG MO'S EYES.
ANYWAY, WHO IS THAT LADY?
OH, HER...

A PLEASANT SCENT.
멀떵

ARE YOU FINALLY AWAKE?
YOU ARE ..
SINCE YOU DID NOT STIR FOR SO LONG, I HAD TO RESTRAIN MYSELF FROM JUST WAKING YOU UP.

AND JUST WHERE MAY THIS BE?
HOW RUDE! YOU DID NOT RECEIVE MY CONSENT, AND YET YOU BROUGHT ME HERE ANYWAY!!
HEY, WAIT! LISTEN TO ME!
I AM GOING TO LEAVE! TAKE ME BACK TO WHERE I WAS, NOW!
AND IF YOU DO NOT, I WILL GO BY MYSELF!
?!

IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR YOU TO GO BACK BY YOURSELF
...IS THIS?
WHERE...
THIS IS AN ISLAND ABOVE THE PATH LEADING TO THE SUN.

WELCOME TO THE LUNAR PALACE, SOAH.

HABAEK DID? I SEE. IF THAT IS THE CASE, I SUPPOSE IT CANNOT BE HELPED.
SINCE YOU HAD ASKED THIS OF ME YOURSELF, I AM ASHAMED IT HAS TURNED OUT LIKE THIS
HOWEVER, HIS WILL WAS TOO RESOLUTE, AND I WAS UNABLE TO BRING HIM.

?
IN ANY CASE, HOW ARE YOU PLANNING ON HANDLING THIS NOW?
THE CHILD MUST HAVE SOMETHING IN MIND.
FROM NOW ON, SHIN NONG, PLEASE STAY OUT OF THIS SITUATION.
IF YOU CONTINUE YOUR INVOLVEMENT, THE LOCATION OF THE LUNAR PALACE IS IN DANGER OF BEING DISCOVERED BY THE EMPEROR.
HABAEK. WHAT COULD YOU BE THINKING?
THE SAME TYPE OF TRICK WILL NOT WORK ON THE EMPEROR TWICE...
I AM PRETTY SURE YOU ARE AWARE THAT WAS THE LAST ATTEMPT...

THE EMPEROR WILL BE ON HIS GUARD FROM NOW ON.
?
THEN THERE IS ONLY ONE WAY LEFT TO RESCUE HABAEK.
I WILL GO TO THE IMPERIAL COUNTRY MYSELF.

반란
FOR THE REBEL ARMY TO ATTACK THE IMPERIAL COUNTRY AND PUT THE PALACE IN CHAOS .

HABAEK, DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT ALL THIS?
NO, NOTHING AT ALL...
...OKAY. IF YOU SAY SO, I'LL BELIEVE YOU. YOU ARE DISMISSED NOW.

DO YOU REALLY THINK HE HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THE REBEL ARMY, YOUR MAJESTY?
WE DON'T NEED TO BE SO WORRIED ABOUT THIS MATTER. THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO FIND OUT ABOUT THAT.
HE DID SAY THAT BI RYEOM WAS HIS FRIEND. HE MUST KNOW WHERE THAT MAN WENT.

BUT, IF HABAEK GOES BACK TO THE WATER COUNTRY WHILE WE HESITATE LIKE THIS ...
HOOHOOHOO, WILL HE BE ABLE TO DO THAT?
HIS LOVE, NAKBIN, WILL STILL BE HERE

HE IS PROBABLY WONDERING HOW WE BROUGHT HER BACK TO LIFE
ISN'T THAT RIGHT, TAE UL JIN IN?
쿠쿠

THANKS TO YOU, IT SEEMS HABAEK WILL BE MINE SOON
I AM VERY FLATTERED, YOUR MAJESTY.

YOU CAN WANDER AROUND AS MUCH AS YOU WANT.
JUST PLEASE STAY HERE UNTIL HABAEK COMES TO GET YOU
AND ONCE AGAIN, REMEMBER THAT THIS PLACE ISN'T SOMEWHERE FROM WHICH A HUMAN BEING CAN ESCAPE.
YOU ARE THE ONLY ONE IN THE LUNAR PALACE, ANYWAY.

YOU'LL SOON COME TO LIKE THIS PLACE, TOO
WHERE IN THE WORLD AM I?
COULD THIS REALLY BE THE MOON?
A LOT OF TIME HAS PASSED, BUT IT'S STILL DARK.
IS IT ALWAYS NIGHTTIME HERE?

THE SOUND... OF A FLUTE?
WHO'S PLAYING IT? I'M SURE HE TOLD ME I WAS THE ONLY ONE HERE...
삐이익

맘치!
NO.. WAY..
THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE..
MU..I..?

NO... THEY ARE SIMILAR, BUT IT'S NOT HIM...
YOU SEEM TO KNOW MUI... WHO ARE YOU?

하백의 신부 新婦

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WHO MIGHT YOU BE THAT YOU WOULD KNOW OF MU?
I AM BUSANG DAE JAE "DONG WANG GONG". AND WHO MIGHT YOU BE?
BUSANG DAE JAE.. DONG WANG GONG, DID YOU SAY? BUT WHAT IS THAT SUPPOSED TO BE?
WHAT?! ARE YOU SAYING YOU HAVE NOT HEARD OF MY NAME BEFORE?
...I HAVE NOT.
FIRST, PLEASE TELL ME HOW YOU KNOW MU! THEN I WILL TELL YOU WHO I AM AS WELL.
THEN... I'M SURE YOU HAVE HEARD OF WON ANG BU BUSANG DAE JAE?

*DAE JAE = GREAT EMPEROR OR YOUR MAJESTY
*DONG WANG GONG = LORD KING OF THE EAST

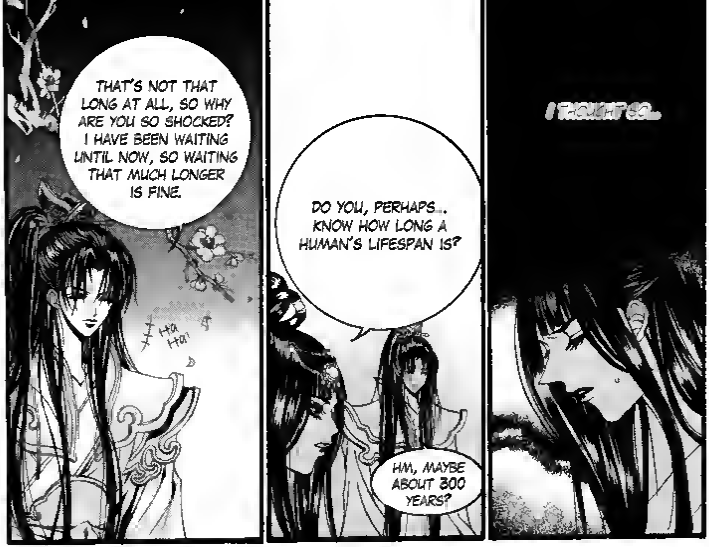
OF COURSE
I WOULD KNOW HIM.
MUI IS MY SON.
AM I SUPPOSED
TO BELIEVE THAT? I HAVE
NOT HEARD MUI SPEAK OF HIS
FATHER EVEN ONCE
AND IF YOU
ARE HIS FATHER,
WHY ARE YOU SO FAR
AWAY INSTEAD OF BEING
WITH HIM?
THAT'S NATURAL,
I SUPPOSE... SINCE
HE BELIEVES I...
AM DEAD...

I FIND IT DIFFICULT TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN HUMANS.
SHIN NONG HAS BEEN AROUND HUMANS QUITE A BIT AND THEREFORE KNOWS THEM WELL, BUT I HAVE NOT REALLY ENCOUNTERED MANY HUMANS.
ㅋㅋ
WELL, THAT'S THAT, BUT I WAS WONDERING... ARE YOU A MAN OR A WOMAN?
HE SIMPLY SHARES THE SAME FACE AS MUI. THAT'S ALL.
THERE'S NO WAY SOMEONE LIKE THIS CAN BE MUI'S FATHER.
MY NAME IS SOAH.
AND SO, WHAT IS YOUR NAME?

MUI IS HABAEK'S CHILDHOOD NAME.
SOAH ... IT MEANS A BEAUTIFUL PERSON.
FOR HIM TO HAVE TOLD YOU THAT NAME, HE MUST HAVE REALLY TAKEN A LIKING TO YOU.

I AM...
HABAEK'S BRIDE.
I AM WAITING HERE UNTIL HE CAN COME TO TAKE ME AWAY...
THEN THAT MEANS... MU!... IS COMING HERE TO THE LUNAR PALACE?!
HE DID NOT PROMISE ME THAT DIRECTLY, BUT... THAT IS WHAT I HAVE BEEN TOLD.

MY GOODNESS.. I DID NOT THINK WE WOULD MEET AGAIN SO SOON...
HE HAS PROBABLY GROWN A LOT, HASN'T HE? WHEN WE MEET, WILL WE BE ABLE TO RECOGNIZE EACH OTHER?
IT SEEMS THEY HAVE NOT SEEN EACH OTHER FOR A VERY LONG TIME... I WONDER WHAT THE STORY BEHIND THAT IS?
SO HOW CAN SOMEONE REACH THIS PLACE?
WHEN VENUS, THE SUN, AND THE EARTH ARE ALIGNED IN THE HEAVENS, THEN THE PATH LEADING TO THIS PLACE WILL OPEN.
AND DO YOU KNOW AROUND WHEN THAT WILL TAKE PLACE?
MMM. MAYBE 120 YEARS FROM NOW?
WHAT DID YOU SAY?!

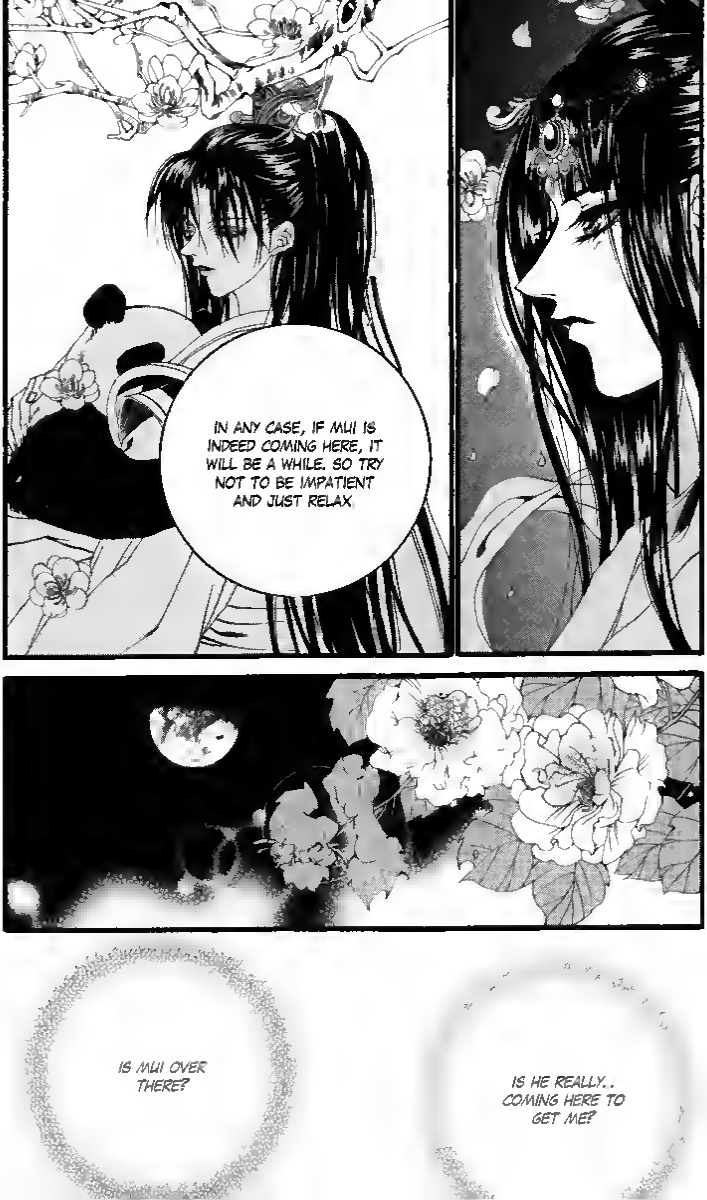

THAT'S NOT THAT LONG AT ALL, SO WHY ARE YOU SO SHOCKED? I HAVE BEEN WAITING UNTIL NOW, SO WAITING THAT MUCH LONGER IS FINE.
HA HA!
DO YOU, PERHAPS.. KNOW HOW LONG A HUMAN'S LIFESPAN IS?
HM, MAYBE ABOUT 300 YEARS?
I DON'T SO..

I CANNOT WAIT AS LONG AS THAT.

HM.. WELL, ASIDE FROM THAT, THERE ARE MANY OTHER WAYS, SO THERE IS NO NEED TO WORRY.
SOMEHOW, I DOUBT THAT!

OH, COME TO THINK OF IT, YOU LOOK LIKE ONE OF THE ANIMALS LIVING IN THE LUNAR PALACE. I THOUGHT YOU SOMEHOW LOOKED FAMILIAR
AH, IT SEEMS IT'S NEARBY. WHO KNOWS... MAYBE YOU WILL KNOW IT.
I WONDER WHAT KIND OF ANIMAL HE IS SPEAKING OF? IF IT'S AN ANIMAL LIVING ON THE MOON MAYBE...A RABBIT?
?
ON THE MOON, WITH BEAUTIFUL FUR MILLED TO WHITENESS...

PANDA??!!
HOW IS A PANDA... ABLE TO LIVE ON THE MOON?
AND DID HE S..Y MILLED TO WHITENESS?!
hoo hoo hoo...
AND SOMEHOW... THAT'S PUT ME IN A BAD MOOD..
IN WHAT WAY DO I LOOK LIKE A PANDA?!


IN ANY CASE, IF MUI IS INDEED COMING HERE, IT WILL BE A WHILE. SO TRY NOT TO BE IMPATIENT AND JUST RELAX.
IS MUI OVER THERE?
IS HE REALLY.. COMING HERE TO GET ME?

WHAT COULD HE BE
THINKING OF RIGHT NOW?

WHAT ARE YOU THINKING OF, STARING AT THE MOON ALL ALONE?
HABAEK..

IS IT SOAH. ? ARE YOU PERHAPS THINKING OF HER?
.....
HABAEK, YOU STILL HAVE NOT RESPONDED TO WHAT I SAID BEFORE.
THAT IF YOU WANT, WE CAN RETURN TO THE WAY WE WERE LONG AGO

YOU KNOW WHERE BI RYEOM HAS TAKEN SOAH, DON'T YOU?
...YES.
IF YOU GO TO HER, THEN I WON'T EVER TELL YOU HOW TO RETURN TO YOUR ORIGINAL STATE.

WHAT ARE YOU WORRYING ABOUT?
I AM NOT GOING ANYWHERE.
SMI-K

I SEE YOU DID NOT SAY
YOU ARE DOING SO BECAUSE
YOU LOVE ME.

YOU MAY NOT ENTER RIGHT NOW.
MURA-NIM... THE EMPEROR HAD ORDERED NO ONE BE ALLOWED TO ENTER ..
HOW IMPERTINENT, MURA.
SINCE I AM BUSY NOW, RETURN LATER WHEN I HAVE CALLED FOR YOU.
AND BY THAT ARE YOU SAYING YOU HAVE NO USE FOR ME ANY LONGER?

IT SEEMS LIKE YOU HAVE A GRASP OF THE SITUATION. AFTER HAVING UNNECESSARILY SPOKEN OF CERTAIN THINGS TO HABAEK AND RUINING OUR PLANS, INSTEAD OF RUNNING AWAY, YOU COME TO MEET ME. HOW BOLD OF YOU, MURA.
I BELIEVE I DO NOT MUCH LIKE BEING CALLED THAT. I PREFER TO THINK MYSELF AS A BYSTANDER.
HMPH! SO HE WAS ONE OF YOUR GOONS, TOO?
I AM SIMPLY ENJOYING INTERESTING THINGS.
AND BI RYEOM'S ABILITY TO SNEAK INTO THE IMPERIAL COUNTRY WAS CAUSED BY YOU AS WELL.
AND IT IS BI RYEOM THAT I HAVE COME HERE TO SPEAK WITH YOU ABOUT. I KNOW THAT WHICH YOU WISH TO KNOW.

BI RYEOM....
WAS GETTING CLOSE TO
ME SIMPLY JUST A MEANS OF
ENTERING THE IMPERIAL
COUNTRY?

THEN...
FROM NOW ON, I WON'T BELIEVE ANYONE...
HE IS ON THE MOON.

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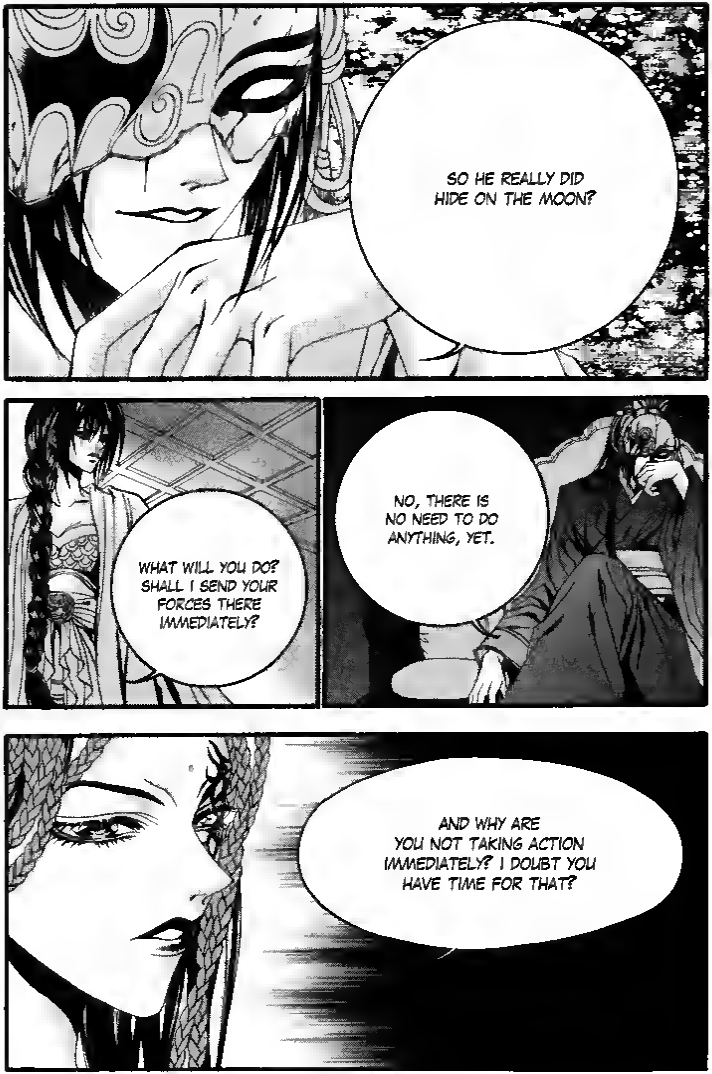
THE MOON, YOU SAY?


SO HE REALLY DID HIDE ON THE MOON?
WHAT WILL YOU DO? SHALL I SEND YOUR FORCES THERE IMMEDIATELY?
NO, THERE IS NO NEED TO DO ANYTHING, YET.
AND WHY ARE YOU NOT TAKING ACTION IMMEDIATELY? I DOUBT YOU HAVE TIME FOR THAT?

AND HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO BELIEVE YOU ARE NOT LYING?
EVEN IF BI RYEOM WAS HIDING HIMSELF THERE, THERE IS NO GUARANTEE THAT IS THE BASE OF THE REBELS.
SO YOU ARE SAYING YOU DO NOT BELIEVE ME?
I AM NOT NECESSARILY SAYING IT IS YOU. I DO NOT KNOW IF BI RYEOM HAS BEEN DECEIVING YOU TO LAY A TRAP FOR ME!
IN ANY CASE, IT HAS BEEN SO LONG SINCE THE PATH TO THE MOON HAS BEEN TRAVELED, THERE ARE VERY FEW LEFT IN THIS WORLD WHO KNOW OF IT.

FURTHERMORE, THE LUNAR PALACE IS CLOSE TO THE SUN, WHICH BENEFITS THE GODS OF FIRE.
IT WOULD BE A WISER CHOICE TO DRAG THE HIDDEN REBELS TO EARTH RATHER THAN TO GO THERE AND FIGHT.
AND THAT IS WHY I NEED HABAEK EVEN MORE.

AND JUST WHY DO YOU INSIST ON KEEPING A HOLD ON HIM?
ARE YOU SAYING THAT HOLDING ONTO HABAEK IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN KNOWING THE LOCATION OF THE REBELS?
DON'T TELL ME... ARE YOU AFTER HIS POWER OVER WATER?
POWER OVER WATER?
OF COURSE HE IS STRONG, HOWEVER, HE IS BUT A CHILD
THE REASON I WANT HIM IS..

BECAUSE NO ONE WITH THE POWER OF FIRE MAY LAY HARM TO HABAEK.
IN THE PAST, SHIN NONG PROMISED SUH WANG MO THAT NO ONE WITH THE POWER OF FIRE WOULD HARM HABAEK.
AND JUST... BECAUSE HE SAID THAT?
IT IS SOMETHING CALLED DIVINE SPEECH IT IS A COVENANT THAT WILL NOT BE BROKEN WHILE YUMJAE IS ALIVE
SWAK

AS LONG AS
I HAVE HIM, THEN
THIS TEDIOUS FIGHTING
CAN BE SWIFTLY PUT
TO AN END.

ALSO... THE WAR
STARTED BY THEIR PREVIOUS
GENERATION WILL NOW
BECOME THEIRS.

YOUR IMPERIAL HIGHNESS, PREPARATIONS FOR THE BANQUET ARE COMPLETE
UNDERSTOOD. I WILL BE THERE SOON, SO TAKE YOUR LEAVE

TONIGHT IS THE END OF THE FULL MOON. HOW DO YOU PLAN ON KEEPING YOUR HOLD ON HIM?
IT WOULD HAVE BEEN EASIER IF SOAH HAD LEARNED HABAEK'S NAME. BUT,
I HAD ALREADY CONSIDERED SHE WOULD FAIL, SO IT IS ALL RIGHT.
DID YOU REALLY BELIEVE . THAT SHE WOULD BE ABLE TO LEARN HIS NAME?
AND WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS?

NAKBIN FAILED.
THAT IS TRUE, SHE DID FAIL. AND THAT IS WHY AS A BACK-UP PLAN, I COMMANDED YOU TO TAKE CARE OF SOAH. HOW WAS SHE SO EASILY TAKEN?
WHILE THE REBELS WERE INVADING, WHERE WERE YOU?
DON'T TELL ME... THAT YOU LET HER GO ON PURPOSE, HOOYE?
IF THERE ARE THINGS ONE WANTS, ONE MAY HAVE THEM.

HOWEVER, IF THERE IS NO WAY I AM ABLE TO HAVE IT, THEN I WILL MAKE SURE NO ONE CAN HAVE IT!
AND IF SUH WANG MO, WHO IS MAKING HASTE TO COME HERE, WISHES TO SAVE THE LIFE OF HER SON, THEN SHE KNOWS... JUST ON WHOSE SIDE SHE MUST STAND.

BOOM BOOM BOOM
IT IS DEFINITELY A GOOD NIGHT FOR A BANQUET UNDER THE FULL MOON.

I AM THANKFUL TO EVERYONE FOR PARTICIPATING IN THIS BANQUET. I PROMISE IT WILL BE VERY ENTERTAINING.
LET US ALL FORGET THE UNFORTUNATE EVENTS FROM A FEW DAYS AGO AND ENJOY OURSELVES.

I AM SURE YOU HAVE NOT FORGOTTEN THAT TODAY IS THE LAST DAY YOU PROMISED.
YOUR HIGHNESS. PLEASE TELL ME YOUR REASONS FOR CALLING ME.
WHY ARE YOU BEING SO IMPATIENT?
OH, COME TO THINK OF IT... SOMEONE HAS INFORMED ME THAT BI RYEOM HAS GONE TO THE MOON. OF COURSE, I AM SURE YOU ALREADY KNEW THAT.
ON A NIGHT SUCH AS THIS, WHEN THE MOON IS SHINING SO BRIGHTLY, YOU SHOULD BE ENJOYING THE ENTERTAINMENT.
!!

HABAEK, TO THINK SHIN NONG IS ON YOUR SIDE WOULD BE A MISTAKE.
HE, LIKE MYSELF, SIMPLY HAS A NEED OF YOU AND IS USING YOU.
TAKE MY HAND. THEN, YOU MAY TAKE A HOLD OF THE HEAVENS!
YOU MAY HAVE WHATEVER YOU DESIRE.
!!!
WHAT DO YOU DESIRE, HABAEK?

STOP RIGHT THERE
...!!

...SUH WANG MO?!!

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IT LOOKS LIKE I AM A BIT LATE. THEN AGAIN, I BELIEVE THE BANQUET BEGAN EARLY.

AH, WANG MO NANGNANG*... PLEASE DO COME IN. THE BANQUET ONLY JUST STARTED SO PLEASE DO NOT WORRY.
* A TYPE OF TITLE

I THOUGHT YOU WOULD BE LONGER, BUT IT SEEMS YOU RUSHED TO GET HERE. YOU NORMALLY DECLINE EVEN THOUGH I ALWAYS INVITE YOU, BUT SINCE YOU WILL BE TAKING PART, I AM QUITE PLEASED.
MY APOLOGIES, YOUR MAJESTY. IT SEEMS I'LL BE AN UNINVITED GUEST TODAY.
?
I REQUEST AN AUDIENCE WITH YOU, YOUR MAJESTY.
PLEASE ASK THE OTHERS TO WITHDRAW.
MY MY, FOR WANG MO TO ASK A REQUEST OF ME, IT MUST BE SOMETHING URGENT.

VERY WELL. IT'S A BIT OF A SHAME, BUT I WILL NEED TO STOP TODAY'S BANQUET. EVERYONE, PLEASE WITHDRAW NOW.
SO, WHAT ARE YOU WILLING TO DO TO SAVE YOUR SON?
I AM SURE YOU DID NOT COME HERE UNPREPARED.
IF YOU DO NOT PLAY YOUR CARDS RIGHT, IT WILL BE DIFFICULT FOR NOT JUST YOUR SON, BUT ALSO YOU, YOURSELF, TO LEAVE THIS PLACE.

EVERYONE IS GONE NOW, SO LET US HEAR WHAT MY LADY WISHES TO SAY
SINCE YOU WERE IN SUCH A RUSH. IT MUST BE AN IMPORTANT MATTER. WHAT COULD BE SO SECRETIVE AND URGENT?
JUST LEAVE HABAEK ALONE, YOUR MAJESTY. THAT CHILD IS NOT SUITED FOR WAR.
AH. SO IT WAS INDEED A TROUBLESOME MATTER AFTER ALL.

IS IT NOT YOUR MAJESTY'S GOAL TO WIN THIS WAR?
AND THAT IS WHY I NEED HIM EVEN MORE. HABAEK PLAYS A PIVOTAL ROLE IN THE WAR.
THEN. IF I PROMISE TO BRING SOMETHING, WOULD YOU LET HIM GO?
I WILL BRING YOU THE LIFE OF YUM JAE SHIN NONG.

KUKUKU...
AS EXPECTED OF SUH WANG MO.
THAT'S A RATHER STRANGE PROMISE...
DO YOU BELIEVE I AM UNABLE TO DO SO?
NO IF IT IS YOU, YOU WILL DO ANYTHING IF IT IS FOR YOUR SON
SLIDE
HOWEVER, THE ISSUE HERE IS THAT HABAEK DOES NOT WISH TO LEAVE THIS PLACE

IF HE WISHES TO STAY HERE BY HIS OWN VOLITION, THEN IT'S A PROBLEM I CANNOT DO ANYTHING ABOUT, NO?
HIS COMING HERE AND HIS STAYING ARE ALL BY HIS OWN WILL. AND THEREFORE HIS DEPARTURE WOULD NATURALLY ALSO BE BY HIS OWN ACCORD. WHAT I AM SAYING IS THAT THIS IS NOT SOMETHING I CAN FORCE, AND SO I CANNOT MAKE A PROMISE WITH YOU TO SEND HABAEK AWAY

HE KNOWS THAT BETTER THAN ANYONE.
HE WILL BE UNABLE TO LEAVE SINCE NAKBIN IS HERE.
HE WILL BE UNABLE TO ABANDON NAKBIN, THE ONE HE LOVED IN THE PAST.
AND AS A RESULT HE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO LET GO OF NAKBIN FIRST.

I REQUEST AN AUDIENCE WITH YOU, YOUR MAJESTY. PLEASE ASK THE OTHERS TO WITHDRAW

WHAT COULD SHE HAVE TO SAY TO THE EMPEROR?
AFTER THAT, I REQUESTED TO SEE HER BUT SHE REFUSED EVERY TIME FOR YOU TO NOT MEET WITH ME..
MOTHER, COULD YOU, BE THINKING OF STANDING BY THE EMPEROR'S SIDE?
WELL, THAT IS NOT ..N]IMPOSSIBILITY... ORIGINALLY, MOTHER HATED HUMANS..
HABAEK

HAEAEK..!
THAT VOICE..
BI RYEOM?

YEAH, IT'S ME, AND WE GOT AWAY SAFELY FROM THE PALACE.
UNDERSTOOD SINCE I AM HEARING FROM YOU, I ASSUMED AS MUCH
YOU KNOW THAT I'M ON THE MOON, RIGHT?
I AM NOT THE ONLY WHO KNOWS THAT THE EMPEROR ALREADY KNOWS AS WELL.

IS THAT SO?
BUT ANYWAY, AREN'T YOU INTERESTED IN HEARING OF SOAH?
SHE DOESN'T SAY ANYTHING, BUT IT SEEMS SHE IS WAITING FOR YOU TO COME FOR HER
WELL, I EXPECTED AS MUCH HOWEVER, SINCE THE PATH TO THE MOON ISN'T ONE EASILY DISCOVERED, FOR NOW IT WILL BE ALL RIGHT.
AND SINCE THIS ISN'T THE EARTH, THE POWER OF FLAMES AND LIGHT IS EVEN GREATER, SO THEY WON'T MAKE A MOVE SO EASILY.
WHEN DO YOU THINK YOU'LL BE COMING?

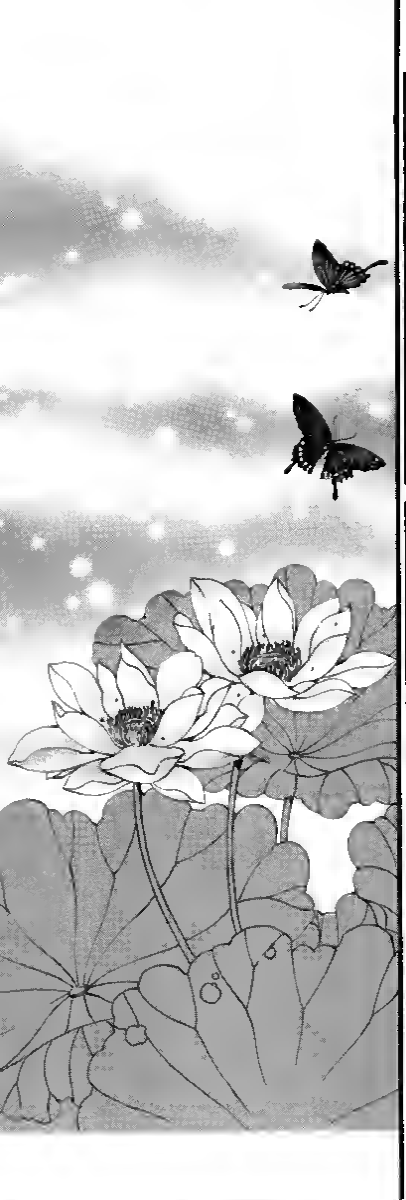
BUT YOU JUST SAID THE PATH TO THE MOON ISN'T ONE EASILY DISCOVERED.
I CAN JUST TELL YOU
DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S RATHER DANGEROUS?
WHAT IF I AM ON THE EMPEROR'S SIDE?

FUHAHA, YOU, ON THE EMPEROR'S SIDE? NO WAY THAT'D HAPPEN.
HOW CAN YOU BE SO SURE OF THAT?
JUST IN CASE, WE TOOK SOAH AS A HOSTAGE.
ARE YOU SURE YOU DON'T WANT TO SEE HER?
SINCE IT'S YOU, YOU COULD JUST USE WATER TO SEE HER
NO, JUST FORGET IT.
WHAT? WHY?

BECAUSE IF I SEE HER, I'D WANT TO TOUCH HER.
AND THEN I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO HOLD BACK AND WOULD GO TO HER. I CANNOT AFFORD TO CONTINUALLY SUFFER FROM GREED
HABAEK..!

WOAH... YOU WERE ABLE TO SAY SUCH SAPPY LINES SO NATURALLY!
NORMALLY YOU'RE SO BLUNT... KEEP IT UP WHENEVER YOU'RE LIKE THIS!
SHUT UP!
ANYHOW, AT THE WATCH OF THE OX*, I WILL BRING SOAH TO THE LOTUS POND.
* WATCH OF THE OX = BETWEEN 1 AM AND 3 AM
WHETHER YOU SEE HER OR NOT, YOU DECIDE
.....

WHY HAVE YOU BROUGHT ME HERE? REALLY... IT IS SO DARK I CANNOT TELL WHAT TIME IT IS
IT IS CURRENTLY THE WATCH OF THE OX ON EARTH. AND THE LOTUS POND HERE IS MOST SIMILAR TO EARTH
DON'T YOU THINK THIS SCENERY LOOKS LIKE THE WATER COUNTRY?
WHEN YOU'RE FEELING HOMESICK, YOU CAN COME HERE AND LESSEN SOME OF YOUR LONGING.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THE SCENERY HERE
RE..LLY DOES LOOK
LIKE THE WATER COUNTRY.
IT'S AS IF I WAS
REALLY THERE..

...EVERYONE... DOING OKAY?
THAT BI RYEOM... HE REALLY DOES AS HE PLEASES.

SHE LOOKS WELL. NO WAIT, DID SHE GET THINNER?
AI REN*...
*CHINESE FOR "LOVED ONE". WHAT A HUSBAND CALLS HIS WIFE, THE SOLE PERSON IN THE WORLD WHO IS PRECIOUS TO HIM.

THIS COULD BE THE
LAST DAY I CAN SEE YOU.

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I WONDER HOW FAR IT IS TO WATER COUNTRY FROM HERE?
IT FEELS LIKE IT IS VERY FAR..

MUI...
YOHEE, JUDONG... EVERYONE... WILL I BE ABLE TO SEE THEM, AGAIN?
I WANT TO GO BACK.
TO WATER COUNTRY...

SHE TRIES TO APPEAR STRONG ON THE OUTSIDE, BUT I'M SURE SHE'S ACTUALLY VERY TIRED. SOAH IS JUST A NORMAL HUMAN BEING, AFTER ALL.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

BOW
BI RYEOM GREETS BUSANG DAE JAE DONG WANG GONG.
IT HAS BEEN A WHILE, BI RYEOM. WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE ALONE WITH HABAEK'S BRIDE?
IT SEEMED LIKE HABAEK WANTED TO SEE HER SO I BROUGHT HER HERE SO HE COULD SEE HER FOR A BIT
YOU'RE MAKING IT SO ONLY HABAEK CAN SEE HER? THAT'S HARDLY FAIR
TWIRL
WELL, THAT'S...

SHALL I MAKE IT SO YOU CAN GO MEET HABAEK?
EXCUSE ME? WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT? ARE YOU SENDING ME BACK?
SENDING YOU BACK IS NOT POSSIBLE. BUT I CAN LET YOU SEE HIM FOR A MOMENT. OF COURSE, THIS IS ONLY IF YOU WANT TO.
I COULD SEE...
HABAEK?

SO HOW ABOUT IT? DO YOU HAVE THE RESOLVE TO KEEP A HOLD ON HIM?
IT LOOKS LIKE THE EMPEROR HAS BEEN RELYING ON YOU QUITE A BIT...

AND DO YOU BELIEVE I WILL FAIL?
WELL.. HOW SHALL I PUT IT?
I DO NOT KNOW ABOUT YOU, PER SE, BUT I HAVE BEEN WITH HABAEK FOR A WHILE NOW, AND I WOULD LIKE TO THINK I KNOW HIM QUITE WELL, BUT..
I'M SURE YOU KNOW THIS ALREADY, RIGHT? WELL, IT'S ONLY NATURAL FOR YOU TO KNOW HIM FAR BETTER THAN I, BUT..
MORE THAN ANY AMOUNT OF REGARD HE HAS FOR HIMSELF, HE LOVES SOAH THAT MUCH MORE.

HOWEVER, HE HAS CHOSEN YOU NOW.
IN THIS CASE, IF HE COULD ONLY SAVE ONE OF YOU TWO, WHO DO YOU THINK HABAEK WOULD CHOOSE?
SHUT UP. YOU DARE COMPARE THAT FAKE BITCH TO ME?
I MET HIM FIRST. I LOVED HIM FIRST.
IF WE HAD NOT BEEN SEPARATED THEN, HABAEK WOULD HAVE NEVER LOVED A WOMAN LIKE THAT.

BUT, IN THE END, YOU TWO DID SEPARATE, AND HABAEK DID FALL IN LOVE WITH HER
OH, YES! AND HOW DO YOU FEEL?
ABOUT SEEING YOUR DEAD BODY...

WHAT HAS HAPPENED CANNOT BE UNDONE. YOUR BODY CANNOT SURVIVE IF YOU LEAVE HERE.
AND IF YOU STAY HERE, HABAEK CANNOT LEAVE
AND WELL... THAT WOULD EFFECTIVELY ACCOMPLISH THE EMPEROR'S GOAL OF TYING HABAEK TO THIS PLACE

BEFORE I SEND YOU OFF TO MEET HABAEK, I HAVE ONE THING TO ASK OF YOU, FIRST
ACCORDING TO BI RYEOM, YOU SEEM TO BE SUFFERING FROM A MISUNDERSTANDING ABOUT HABAEK
HABAEK SAID THAT IN ORDER TO DECEIVE THE EMPEROR, HE PRETENDED TO LOSE HIS MEMORY...
ARE YOU SAYING HABAEK... DIDN'T LOSE HIS MEMORY?

THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE HE REALLY DID SEEM LIKE HE DID NOT KNOW ME
NO. HE DID NOT REALLY LOSE HIS MEMORY.
I DON'T KNOW THE EXACT REASON WHY HE PRETENDED TO LOSE HIS MEMORY, BUT IT'S CLEAR HE DID IT TO PROTECT YOU.
SINCE HE ASKED ME TO TAKE CARE OF YOU.
AND TRUTHFULLY, THE REASON I BROUGHT YOU HERE WAS SO THAT HE COULD SEE YOU FROM WHERE HE IS IN THE IMPERIAL COUNTRY. HE WANTED TO SEE YOU.
AND SO, LET'S GET BACK TO THE ORIGINAL POINT.

FOR YOU TO MEET HIM, YOUR PHYSICAL BODY WILL REMAIN HERE, BUT YOUR SPIRIT WILL BE SENT TO HIM.
AND ACCORDINGLY, YOU WILL ONLY BE ABLE TO SEE HIM. YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO TOUCH HIM OR SPEAK TO HIM.
AS BI RYEOM JUST SAID, HABAEK CAN USE WATER TO SEE WHAT HE WANTS ON THIS WORLD.
AND ALSO WE CAN USE THE WATER TO GO SEE WHAT WE WANT TO SEE.

IF YOU STILL DO NOT BELIEVE HABAEK,
WHY NOT GO SEE HIM FOR YOURSELF AND CLEAR UP THIS MISUNDERSTANDING?
OF COURSE, IT IS NOT AN EASY METHOD, BUT IF YOU ARE DETERMINED TO DO THIS, I WILL HELP YOU
I, WHO POSSESS THE POWER OF FIRE, CANNOT USE THIS METHOD, BUT IF YOU ARE HABAEK'S BRIDE, THEN IT WILL WORK.
I WILL GO. I WISH TO GO. I WISH TO SEE HIM.
YES

THEN, HOW WILL I BE ABLE TO GO TO HABAEK?
IF YOU FOLLOW THE SOUND OF WATER, YOU WILL GO TO HABAEK OF YOUR OWN ACCORD.
THE WATER HERE IS CONNECTED WITH THE WATER ON EARTH

THIS IS..
THE SOUND OF WATER?
IT REALLY IS.
I CAN HEAR WATER.
I CAN HEAR WATER NEARBY.

WILL SHE BE ALL RIGHT? ISN'T THIS DANGEROUS?
SHE'LL BE FINE.
Well, there is a possibility of death, but...
AH...
TWIRL
HUH? WHAT DID YOU SAY? WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY UNDER YOUR BREATH!?
IF SHE CAN DIE, THEN IT'S INCREDIBLY DANGEROUS!
IT'LL BE FINE SINCE IT'S HER, SHE'LL BE FINE.
ALSO, IF A HUMAN IS TO LOVE A GOD, SHE MUST BE ABLE TO OVERCOME SUCH TRIALS AS THIS

OH, YEAH. NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT..
SO HE WAS PLANNING SOMETHING!
DID I DID TELL HER HOW TO GET BACK? HAHA!
NO! NO, YOU DIDN'T!
THIS IS BAD! HABAEK WILL KILL ME FOR REAL THIS TIME!

번
쩍
헉!!!!
콰아아아...

I WAS THINKING OF GOING TO WHERE HABAEK IS... SO WHY DID I COME HERE?
THE SCENERY IS FAMILIAR... THIS IS DEFINITELY WATER COUNTRY.
BUT HOW DID I END UP IN HERE?
HABAEK IS AT THE IMPERIAL COUNTRY NOW.. OR DID HE ALREADY RETURN TO WATER COUNTRY?
HABAEK-NIM...

HABAEK?
THIS IS.. THE ROOM WHERE I FIRST SAW HABAEK.
HABAEK-NIM, I'VE BEEN LOOKING A LONG TIME FOR YOU. MAY I ASK WHAT YOU ARE DOING HERE?
AH, YOOKOH. I WAS JUST TAKING CARE OF SOME CORRESPONDENCES. I HAVE THINGS TO DO...
HOW CAN THAT BE SINCE NO ONE COMES HERE?
JUST A MOMENT.. THERE SEEMS TO BE SOMEONE LISTENING OUTSIDE THE DOOR.

하백의 신부 新婦

The Bride of the Water God

by Mi-Kyung Yun

Raw: Anonymous
Translator: Anonymous
Editors: Phy Phy, yomoko
C chiresakura

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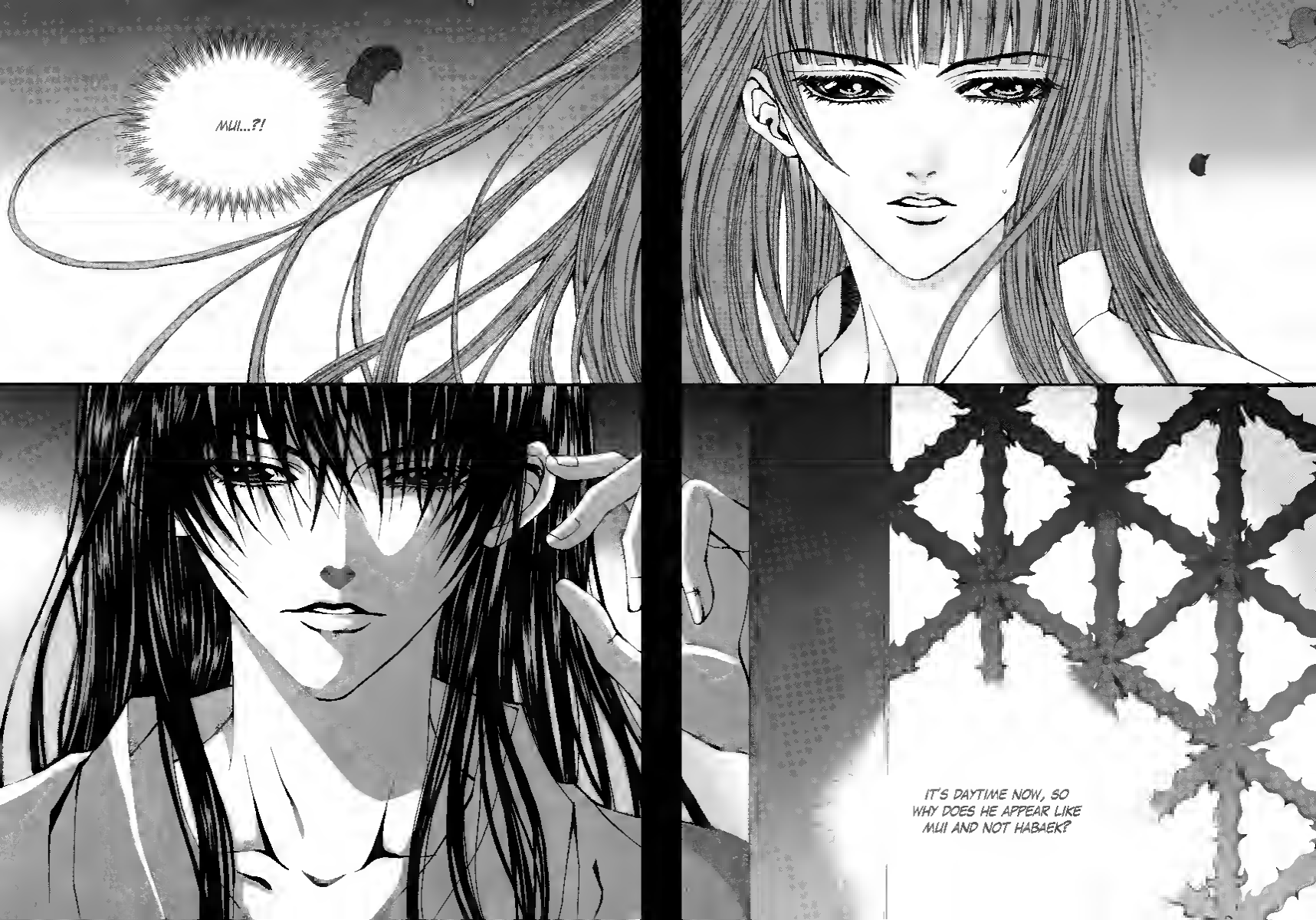
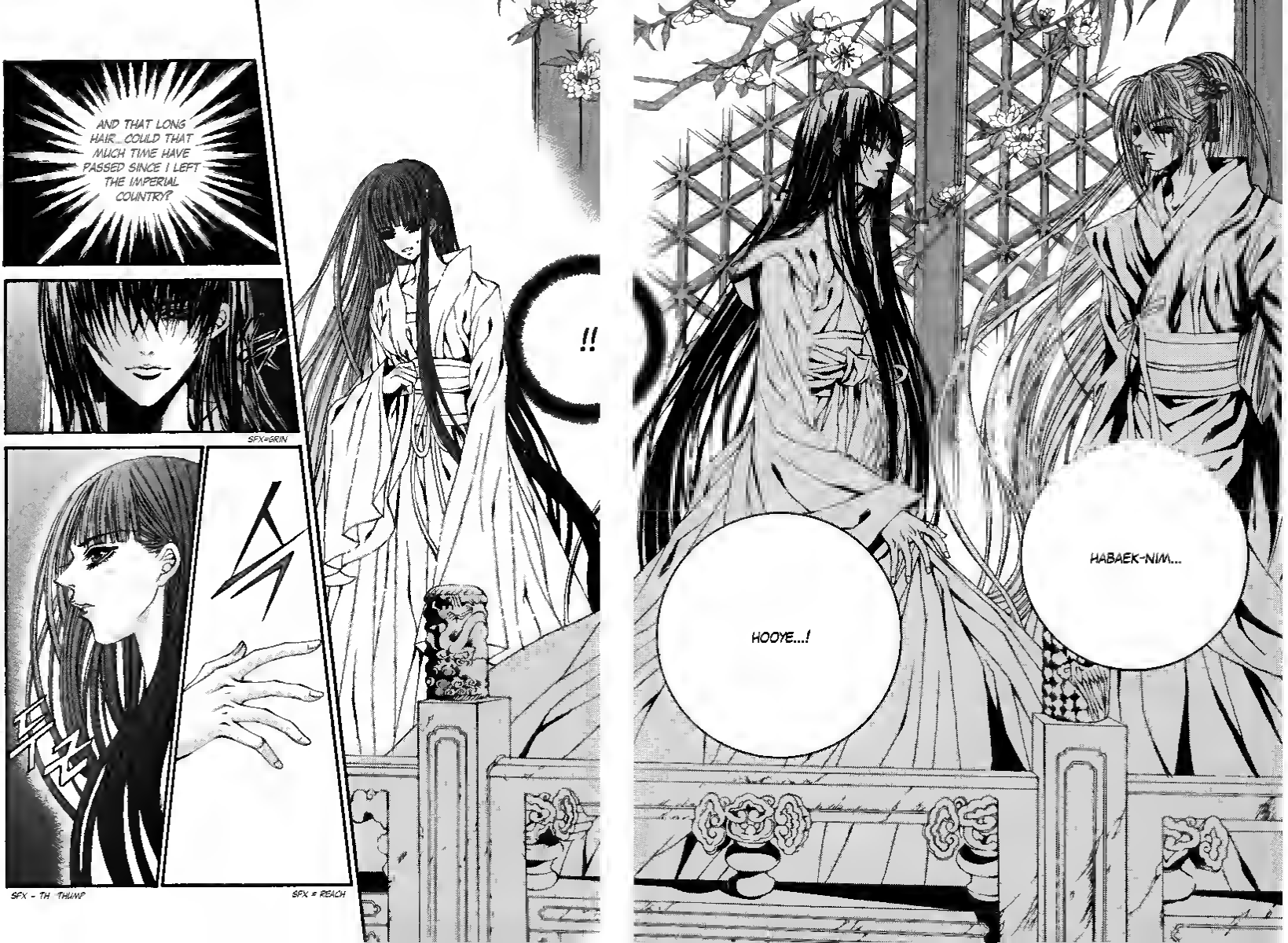
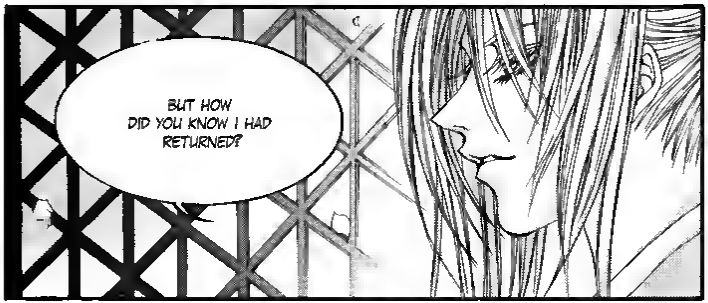

MUI...?!
IT'S DAYTIME NOW, SO WHY DOES HE APPEAR LIKE MUI AND NOT HABAEK?


AND THAT LONG HAIR...COULD THAT MUCH TIME HAVE PASSED SINCE I LEFT THE IMPERIAL COUNTRY?
!!
SFX=GRIN
SFX - TH THUMP
SFX = REACH
HOOYE...!
HABAEK-NIM...

YOU'RE BACK SO SOON, DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?
I FINISHED MY WORK EARLY, SO I HURRIED BACK


BUT HOW DID YOU KNOW I HAD RETURNED?

I JUST HAD A FEELING

HABAEK AND HOOYE SEEM UNFAMILIAR. AND WATER COUNTRY DIFFERS SOMEWHAT FROM THE ONE I AM USED TO
DON'T TELL ME, THIS PLACE IS

I SEE GENERAL HOOYE IS WITH YOU. AM I PERHAPS INTERRUPTING?
HABAEK ..
NAKBIN...!
NEVER,

MY BRIDE

A HAPPY HABAEK WITH A LAUGHING FACE..
WHY DID I GO TO WATER COUNTRY'S PAST?
THIS IS NOT WHAT I WANTED TO SEE SO WHY THEN..!?
DO YOU THINK IT'LL BE OKAY IF WE JUST WAIT LIKE THIS?

HM? WHAT WILL BE OKAY?
I'M TALKING ABOUT SOAH! I'M WORRIED SINCE SHE DOESN'T KNOW HOW TO GET BACK!
THERE IS A TIME LIMIT ON HOW LONG SHE CAN STAY THERE, SO SHE'LL BE FINE.
ONCE HER TIME IS UP, SHE'LL RETURN NATURALLY.
IN ANY CASE. I'M MORE CURIOUS ABOUT WHAT TYPE OF CONCLUSION SHE WILL REACH ONCE SHE RETURNS.

WILL SENDING HER THERE RESULT IN A HAPPY ENDING FOR EVERYONE?

PLEASE DON'T TOY WITH ME BY COMPLETELY FORGETTING ABOUT SOMA UNTIL I DRAG IT OUT OF YOU
TCH!

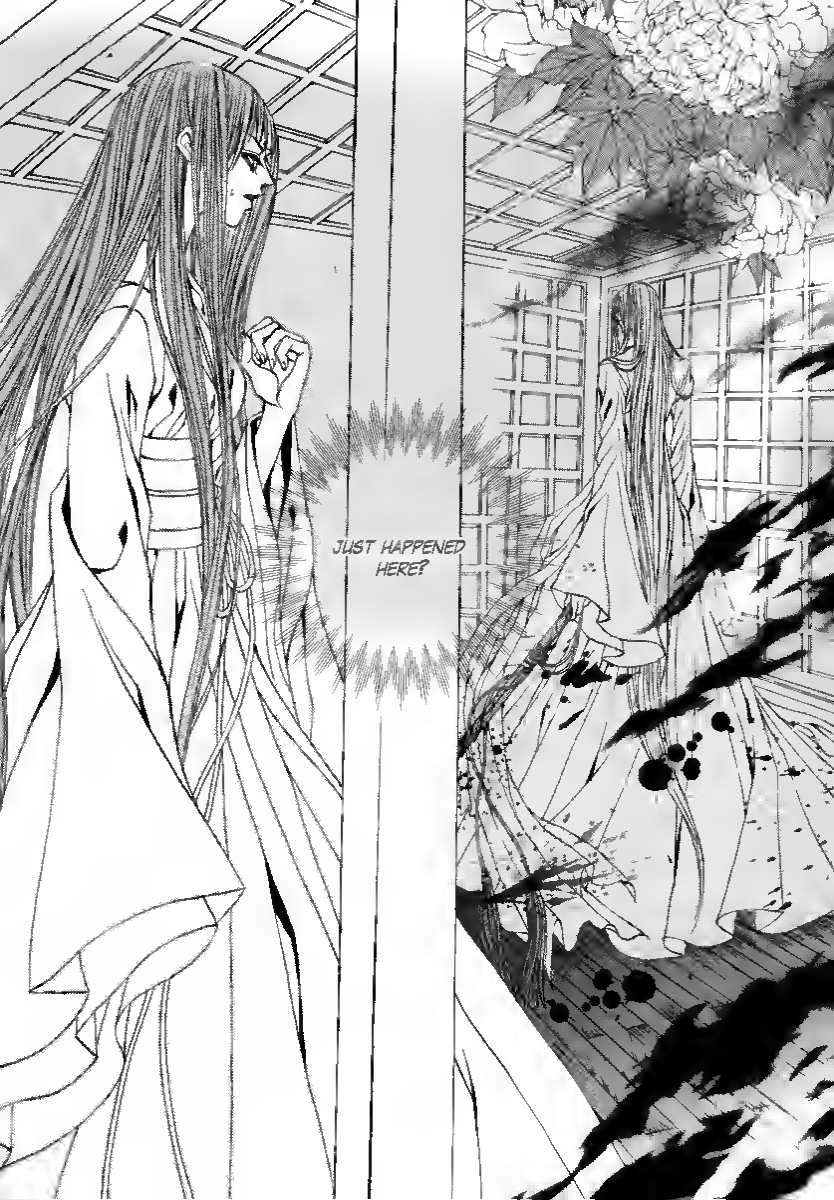
I DO HOPE SHE REACHES A GOOD CONCLUSION...

I WONDER WHAT MISUNDERSTANDING I CAN CLEAR UP IN THE MEMORIES OF THE PAST...
AND ANYWAY, WHAT AM I ABLE TO DO HERE?
I JUST WANT TO GO BACK.

콰앙
SFX = BOOM!
WHAT COULD THAT BE?
IT DEFINITELY SOUNDED LIKE IT CAME FROM THERE..

SFX = WOOSH
휘이이이

SFX = FLAMES
화르르...
WHAT IN THE WORLD...


JUST HAPPENED HERE?

NAK...BIN...?
NO, IT CAN'T BE...
ISN'T THAT THE CHILD-HABAEK? IT CAN'T BE...

"I WAS CURSED."
"CURSED FOR BEING UNABLE TO PROTECT THE ONE I LOVED..."
SOMEHOW CAN!!
SFX = BA-DUMP

FIND THE SECRET BEHIND HABAEK'S CURSE?

하백의 신부 新婦

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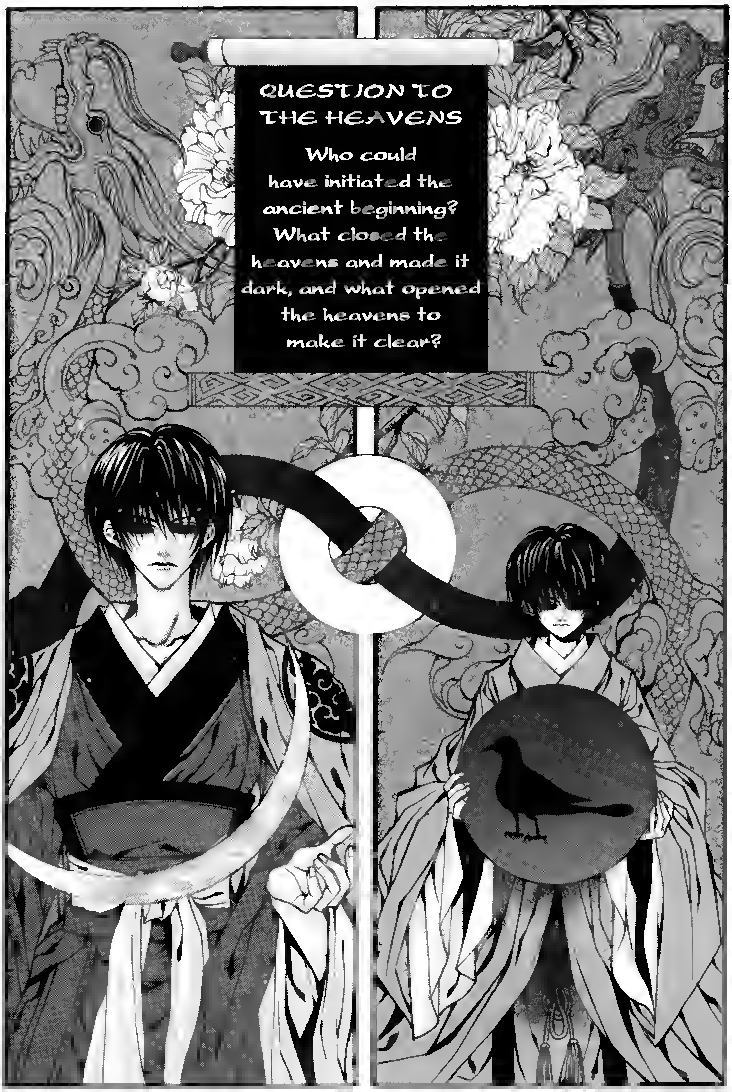

QUESTION TO THE HEAVENS
Who could have initiated the ancient beginning? What closed the heavens and made it dark, and what opened the heavens to make it clear?

BUT HOW COULD HOOYE DO SOMETHING TO NAKBIN?
WHAT IN THE WORLD COULD HAVE HAPPENED?

HABAEK-NIM,
IT IS DANGEROUS
HERE. WE MUST LEAVE
IMMEDIATELY!
!!

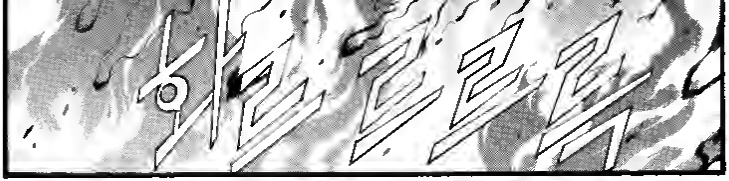
파앗
WHY...
!!
WHY ARE YOU
LIKE THIS?!

DO YOU STILL NOT KNOW?
I KNEW THAT.
SHE RECEIVED ORDERS FROM THE EMPEROR TO KILL YOU.
HER PLAN, FROM THE VERY START, WAS TO BECOME CLOSE TO YOU, HABAEK-NIM.
!!

YOU DIDN'T NEED TO USE A CURSE LIKE THIS... YOU COULD HAVE JUST ASKED ME TO DIE...
HABAEK-NIM...!
IF YOU HAD JUST ASKED, I WOULD HAVE GIVEN YOU...
MY LIFE....

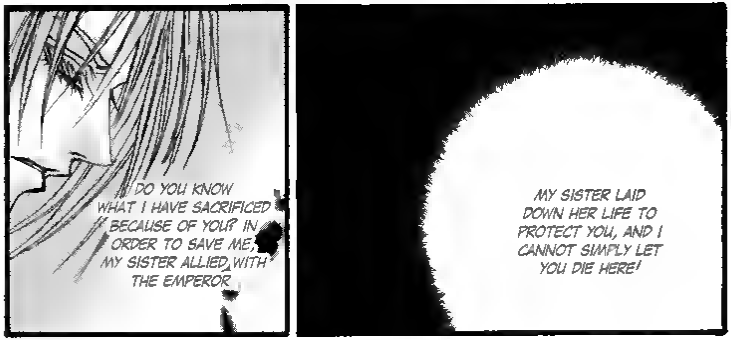
SHALL I TELL YOU A SECRET, HABAEK?
NAKBIN?
THE SPELL I CAST ON YOU MAKES YOUR POWER WEAK DURING THE DAY.
THIS WAY, IN THE BATTLE WITH THE SUN GODS, YOU, WHO CANNOT USE YOUR POWER DURING THE DAY, WILL BE OF NO USE.
NOW THE EMPEROR WILL NO LONGER HAVE AN INTEREST IN YOU.
...I'M FINALLY SICK OF IT. BECAUSE OF YOU, I'VE ALSO BEEN USED FOR ALL KINDS OF THINGS...

THAT'S WHY...
GOODBYE.
RUN AWAY, HABIEK, AWAY FROM THE EMPEROR'S GRASP...



I'M NOT GOING
GO BY YOURSELF, HOOYE.

NO WAY! IN THIS WEAKENED STATE, EVEN YOU WOULD DIE IN THIS FIRE!
GET A HOLD OF YOURSELF, PLEASE!


DO YOU KNOW WHAT I HAVE SACRIFICED BECAUSE OF YOU? IN ORDER TO SAVE ME, MY SISTER ALLIED WITH THE EMPEROR
MY SISTER LAID DOWN HER LIFE TO PROTECT YOU, AND I CANNOT SIMPLY LET YOU DIE HERE!

THIS IS QUITE A TEAR-JERKING SCENE.
WHO THE HELL ARE YOU!?

HM, WELL..
LET'S SEE WHO SHALL I INTRODUCE MYSELF AS? MAYBE IT'LL BE BEST TO INTRODUCE MYSELF AS THIS. I AM THE PERSON WHO TOLD NAKBIN HOW TO PLACE A CURSE ON HABAEK-NIM.
AND NOW, I AM THE PERSON WHO HAS COME TO REVEAL THE WAY TO LIFT THE CURSE.
..WHAT DID YOU SAY?
SO.. THERE IS A WAY TO LIFT THE CURSE?
THERE'S A WAY TO LIFT HABAEK'S CURSE?
AND WHAT WOULD THAT BE?
WELL, THERE IS ONE CONDITION THAT MUST BE MET IN ORDER TO LIFT THE CURSE, AND THAT IS...

THE ONE WHO HAS PLACED THE CURSE MUST BE THE ONE TO UNDO IT
WHY DO YOU SPEAK OF THE IMPOSSIBLE? THE WOMAN IS ALREADY DEAD!
ISN'T THAT THE SAME AS SAYING THERE IS NO WAY TO UNDO THE CURSE?!

WASN'T SHE HALF HUMAN?
WHEN A GOD DIES, HIS OR HER BODY AND SOUL GO TO THE GREAT MOUNTAIN, BUT, HUMANS DIFFER FROM GODS BY REINCARNATING.
FROM NOW ON, THE HUMANS WILL DEDICATE A WOMAN TO BE HABAEK'S BRIDE.
WHEN THAT WOMAN RETURNS AGAIN TO WATER COUNTRY,
HABAEK-NIM CAN ONCE AGAIN MEET HIS LOVED ONE, AND THE CURSE CAN, OF COURSE, BE LIFTED.
OH MY GOODNESS

THEN... THE REASON WHY A BRIDE IS SENT EVERY YEAR...
IS BECAUSE HE WAS WAITING FOR THE REINCARNATED NAKBIN? EVEN WITHOUT KNOWING HOW MANY HUNDREDS OR THOUSANDS OF YEARS IT COULD TAKE... ALL JUST FOR ONE PERSON... FOR THAT?

WHAT?! WHAT'S GOING ON?
MY HAND.. IS FADING..!
DON'T TELL ME I HAVE TO GO BACK NOW? NO! I HAVEN'T HEARD THE WAY TO LIFT THE CURSE, YET!
NO! I CAN'T GO, LIKE THIS...!!

하백의 신부 新婦

The Bride of the Water God

by Mi-Kyung Yun

Raw: Anonymous
Translator: Anonymous
Editor: PhyPhy
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This is the last chapter of Volume 10.
We are looking for translators for Volume 11,
so if you are interested in helping out, please
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chire at soompi.com.

愛蓮亭

HOWEVER, IF HABAEK-NIM REQUIRES THIS SACRIFICE FROM THE HUMANS, THEY WILL MISUNDERSTAND AND BELIEVE HIM TO BE AN EVIL GOD AND COME TO HATE HIM.
DO YOU NOT CARE EVEN IF THAT HAPPENS?

IT DOES NOT MATTER I WILL DO ANYTHING.
IF I WILL BE ABLE TO SEE HER AGAIN, I'LL TAKE ANY CONDEMNATION BUT HOW WILL I KNOW IT IS HER?
HABAEK-NIM?!
I WILL ENCIRCLE WATER COUNTRY WITH A BARRIER SO THAT ANY BRIDES WHO ARE NOT NAKBIN WILL BE UNABLE TO ENTER.
ANY BRIDE WHO DOES NOT PERISH IN THE HARSH WAVES AND WATER AND ENTERS WATER COUNTRY WILL SURELY BE NAKBIN REINCARNATED AS A HUMAN

RIGHT NOW, IT SEEMS YOU BELIEVE IN NAKBIN'S REBIRTH, MUI
IS THAT WHY TAE-EUL-JIN-IN TOLD ME SOMETHING LIKE THAT BACK THEN?
THEN HOW WAS I ABLE TO ENTER WATER COUNTRY?
VERY WELL. THEN, AS WAS PROMISED.
.....
WHAT? WHAT ARE THEY SAYING? I CAN'T HEAR...
휘이이이잉
*SFX = WHOOOOOSH

NO, I CAN'T GO BACK YET..
JUST A BIT LONGER
HABAEK..
스르르
SFX - SSSST
팟
앗
SFX = POOF

SFX: HOOOSH
HABAEK-NIM, IS SOMETHING WRONG?
NO, NOTHING....

번쩍!!

SFX: FLASH

!!
ARE YOU CONSCIOUS NOW, SOAH?
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? WERE YOU ABLE TO MEET MUI?

DONG WANG GONG. DID YOU INTENTIONALLY SEND ME TO THE PAST?
WHY? OF ALL PLACES, WHY DID YOU SEND ME TO WATER COUNTRY IN THE PAST?!
I APOLOGIZE FOR NOT TELLING YOU BEFOREHAND. HOWEVER, I FELT YOU NEEDED TO KNOW OF THE PAST BEFORE MEETING HABAEK NOW.
YOU ARE RIGHT. I SENT YOU TO THE PAST, ON PURPOSE.
ONLY YOU KNOW WHAT YOU SAW WHILE THERE. DO YOU STILL WISH TO GO MEET HABAEK AND LEARN THE TRUTH?

I WISH TO KNOW WHERE HIS TRUE HEART LIES
HE ASKED ME TO BELIEVE IN HIM NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENED, BUT I WAS UNABLE.
THERE MUST BE A REASON HE DECEIVED ME .

THIS TIME,
I WANT TO BELIEVE
IN HIM.
ALL RIGHT, GOOD.
IF THAT IS WHAT YOU HAVE
DECIDED UPON, THEN I WILL
HELP YOU TO ACTUALLY
MEET WITH HIM.

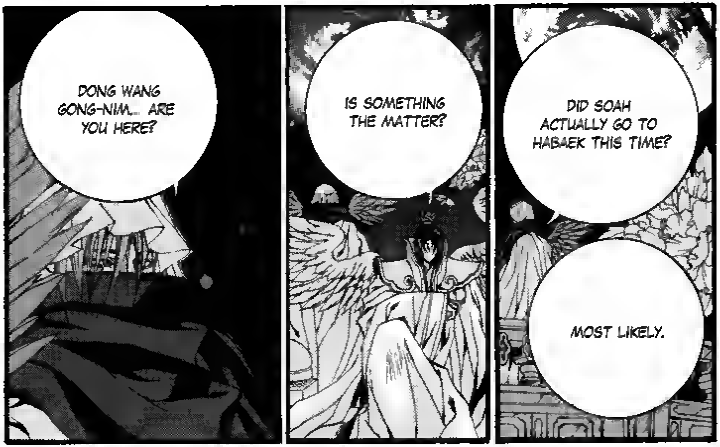
DONG WANG GONG...

WANG MO-NIM...
I HEARD YOU HAVE BEEN LOOKING FOR ME.
IT HAS BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I SAW YOU LAST, GOLDEN MOTHER* I HOPE YOU HAVE BEEN WELL IN THE MEANTIME.
*GOLDEN MOTHER= ANOTHER ONE OF SUH WANG MO'S NAMES
NAKBIN...! THE DAY OF YOUR DEATH HAS ALREADY PASSED. WHY ARE YOU STILL HERE?
ARE YOU TRYING TO TRICK DUSOOK'S* EYES AND DECEIVE THE OTHER GODS?
* DUSOOK= URSA MAJOR AND MINOR THE CONSTELLATIONS GOVERNING LIFE.

YOU AND HABAEK WERE JUST PASSING FRIENDS. DO NOT DECEIVE HIM ANY LONGER AND LET HIM GO.
THOUGH HE MAY BE THE EMPEROR, IT WILL BE DIFFICULT FOR HIM TO AVERT URSA MAJOR"S GAZE MUCH LONGER. DON'T TELL ME YOU DON'T REALIZE HE'S JUST USING YOU ONCE AGAIN AND WILL THROW YOU AWAY!
* URSA MAJOR= THE SEVEN GODS IN CHARGE OF DEATH (THE BIG DIPPER HAS 7 STARS)
THAT .. IS A BAT-SHAPED JADE TRINKET. BUT, WHY DO YOU HAVE ONLY HALF?
THE BAT IS A SYMBOL FOR HAPPINESS IN A MARRIAGE. SO IS THE REMAINING HALF WITH DONG WANG GONG?

EVEN THOUGH WE MAY NOT HAVE BEEN TOGETHER BY THE LUNAR ELDER*,
WE PLEDGED OUR OATHS BY EXCHANGING OUR NUPTIAL CUPS.*
*AN ELDERLY DEITY FROM LEGENDS WHO WOULD BIND TWO LOVERS TOGETHER
*A WEDDING DRINK IS POURED INTO EACH CUP AND THEY ARE EXCHANGED BY THE BRIDE AND GROOM.
SO NOW THAT HE CHERISHES SOMEONE ELSE, ARE YOU SAYING I MUST LEAVE?!
EVEN IF IT WAS FOR A DIFFERENT REASON, GOLDEN MOTHER, YOU KNOW THIS FEELING QUITE WELL, NO? THE SUFFERING YOU FEEL FROM BEING APART FROM THE ONE YOU LOVE...

FOR HIM, I WOULD EVEN GIVE MY OWN LIFE, BUT I DO NOT WISH TO GIVE IT FOR ANY OTHER REASON.
PLEASE JUST CLOSE YOUR EYES TO THIS, QUEEN MOTHER. I BEG YOU..
?
I'M SAYING THIS FOR YOUR SAKE, AS WELL. IF YOU CONTINUE TO IGNORE REASON, YOU MAY NOT BE ABLE TO BE REBORN AGAIN.


DONG WANG GONG-NIM... ARE YOU HERE?
IS SOMETHING THE MATTER?
DID SOAH ACTUALLY GO TO HABAEK THIS TIME?
MOST LIKELY.

BI RYEOM...

WHAT IS THE MATTER, DONG WANG GONG-NIM?
OH, IT'S NOTHING. BECAUSE OF TODAY.. I'M JUST FEELING A BIT OF PITY FOR MYSELF.
SLIDE
I'M RESTLESS SINCE I AM UNABLE TO DO ANYTHING LIKE THIS MYSELF...

THE PROMISED NIGHT OF THE FULL MOON HAS ALREADY PASSED, YOUR HIGHNESS. TODAY, I WILL BE TAKING NAKBIN TO WATER COUNTRY WITH ME
MY MY... EVEN WANG MO HAS ARRIVED. WHY ARE YOU IN SUCH A RUSH?
IT WILL SOON BE MY ROYAL BIRTHDAY, SO HOW ABOUT YOU STAY UNTIL THEN?
FURTHERMORE, DON'T YOU WANT TO KNOW IF NAKBIN HERSELF WISHES TO RETURN TO WATER COUNTRY? WHAT IF SHE WISHES TO REMAIN HERE?

NO, SHE WILL RETURN WITH ME. ISN'T THAT RIGHT, NAKBIN?
COME HERE.
HEHE, NAKBIN'S BODY CANNOT STAY ALIVE EVEN FOR A DAY OUTSIDE OF THIS PLACE... IT IS FOR THAT REASON WE HAD USED YEOWHA.
AND THEREFORE, NAKBIN HAS NO OTHER CHOICE!

SO WHAT WILL YOU DO, HABAEK.
NAKBIN... !!

HABAEK, YOUR ONE AND ONLY BRIDE IS ME, RIGHT?
... I AM SORRY, NAKSIN... I AM ALREADY BOUND TO A SOULMATE... BUT IT'S NOT YOU...

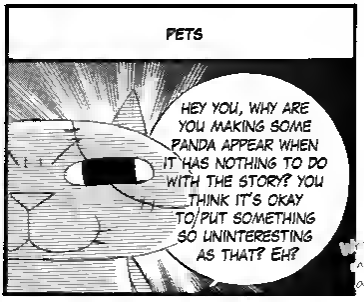
I ALREADY CHERISH HER IN MY HEART HOWEVER, IT DOES NOT MEAN I WILL SEND YOU AWAY, SO DO NOT WORRY

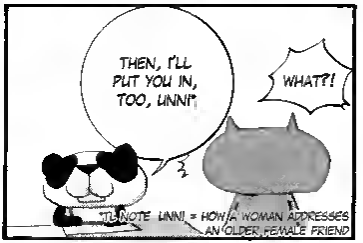
ARE THESE MUI'S TRUE FEELINGS ?
YOU REALLY SHOULD HAVE LIED OR DECEIVED ME INSTEAD...
SPLURT

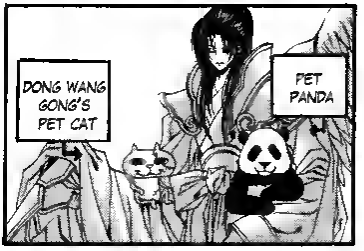
MUL..!!
EVEN IF I AM BORN AGAIN, I WILL NEVER UNDO YOUR CURSE.

하백의 신부 新婦

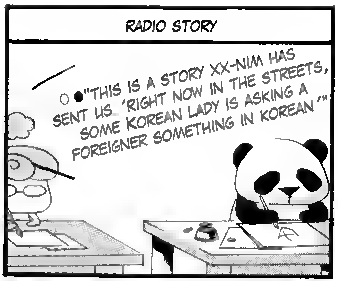
☆MIGENG-EE'S FINAL NOTES☆

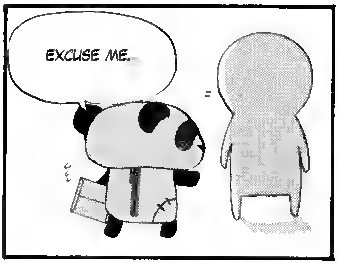

PETS
HEY YOU, WHY ARE YOU MAKING SOME PANDA APPEAR WHEN IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THE STORY? YOU THINK IT'S OKAY TO PUT SOMETHING SO UNINTERESTING AS THAT? EH?
te a bit more like an author would

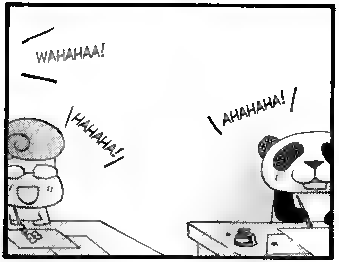


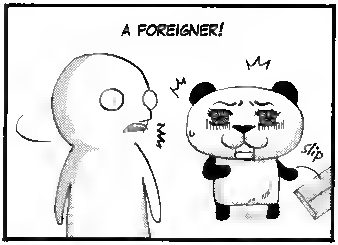


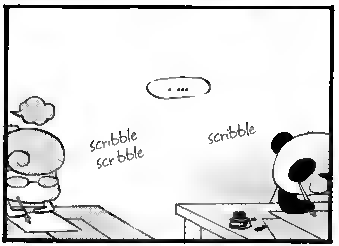
ON THE STREETS
I CAME TO SEOUL BY MYSELF FOR THE FIRST TIME, EVER, TO FIND THE EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT AND BECAME LOST...
I SHOULD JUST ASK ANYONE ON THE STREET.


RADIO STORY
"THIS IS A STORY XX-NIM HAS SENT US. 'RIGHT NOW IN THE STREETS, SOME KOREAN LADY IS ASKING A FOREIGNER SOMETHING IN KOREAN.'"


EXCUSE ME.


WAHAHAA!
HAHAHA!
AHAHAHA!


A FOREIGNER!
MM
SIP


...
scribble scribble
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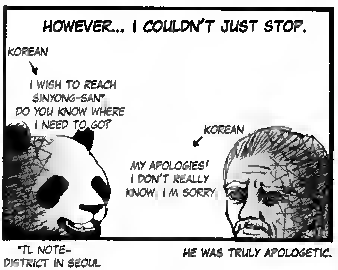
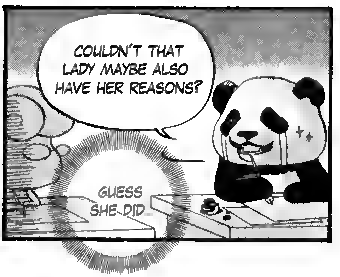
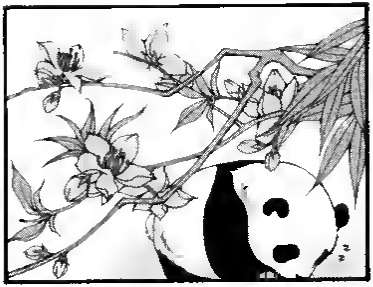
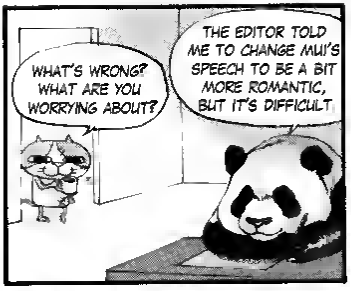
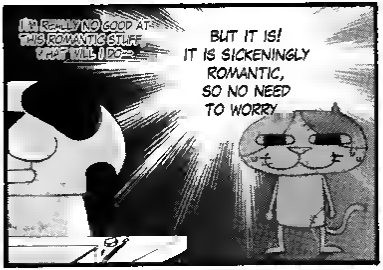

HOWEVER... I COULDN'T JUST STOP.
KOREAN
I WISH TO REACH SINYONG-SAN" DO YOU KNOW WHERE I NEED TO GO?
KOREAN
MY APOLOGIES! I DON'T REALLY KNOW. I'M SORRY.
"TL NOTE- A DISTRICT IN SEOUL
HE WAS TRULY APOLOGETIC.


COULDN'T THAT LADY MAYBE ALSO HAVE HER REASONS?
GUESS SHE DID.



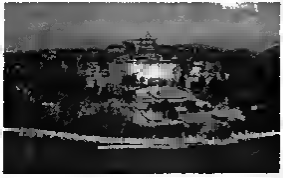

WHAT'S WRONG? WHAT ARE YOU WORRYING ABOUT?
THE EDITOR TOLD ME TO CHANGE MUI'S SPEECH TO BE A BIT MORE ROMANTIC, BUT IT'S DIFFICULT



SETTING FOR THE WATER COUNTRY

WHEN I WAS FIRST CREATING THE SETTING FOR THE WATER COUNTRY, I DECIDED TO PLACE THE PALACE ABOVE AN ISLAND WHICH APPEARS IN THE MIDST OF WATER. THE SUMMER VILLA "YI HWA WON" OF THE EMPRESS DOWAGER XI WAS USED AS A REFERENCE. IT WAS THE IDEAL PALACE AND MOST SIMILAR TO WHAT I HAD ENVISIONED FOR THE WATER COUNTRY.

"Yi Hwa Won" which appears above the artificial lake created by digging out the earth.



IN THE COLOR ESPRIT OF VOLUME 10, WHAT MUI SAYS "BUT, I LIKE FLOWERS WHO CAN TALK MORE SO THAN LOTUS FLOWERS?", WAS TAKEN FROM WHAT HYUNJONG SAID TO THE POPPY PLANT". THAT IS, IT WAS AS IF THE FLOWER COULD UNDERSTAND SPEECH IT SEEMS HYUNJONG WAS QUITE THE ROMANTIC GUY, HOOHOO..

"TL NOTE A STORY FROM ANCIENT CHINA IN WHICH HYUNJONG IS SAID TO HAVE TAUGHT A POPPY FLOWER TO UNDERSTAND SPEECH

Thanks to...

THIS IS THE 10TH VOLUME. EVEN WHEN I WAS DRAWING VOLUME 1, I NEVER THOUGHT I WOULD REACH VOLUME 10. BUT SOMEHOW, VOLUME 10 IS OUT. IF I HAD DONE THIS ALONE, I WOULD HAVE RUN AWAY LONG AGO. I THANK EVERYONE WHO HAS HELPED ME TO THIS DAY. I AM ALWAYS THANKFUL TO EVERYONE WHO HAS READ MY BOOKS, TO ALL THOSE WHO ARE CONSTANTLY CHEERING ME ON AT THE WINK MIKYUNG FAN-CLUB, TO EUNJUNG-SSI WHO HELPED ME WITH MY WORK, TO YOONHEE-SSI, AND TO KYUNGAE-UNNI AND ALSO, TO THE EDITORS AT WINK WHO ASSISTED IN IMPROVING MY WOEFULLY INCOMPETENT WORK, I AM ALWAYS THANKFUL AND SORRY. (ESPECIALLY TO EDITOR LEE SEUNGYEON WHO, BECAUSE OF ME, HAD TO IMPROVE HIS PHOTOSHOP SKILLS EVERY DAY.) I WILL BE GIVING IT MY ALL, SO PLEASE STAY WITH ME TO THE END. I WILL DO MY BEST.

* TL NOTE= "-SSI" IS TACKED ON TO NAMES TO INDICATE RESPECT. "-UNNI" IS A TERM ONE ADDS TO A NAME TO INDICATE FAMILIARITY OF A WOMAN TO AN OLDER WOMAN